REMARKS

Claims 4, 9 and 20-22 have been examined.

I. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph

The Examiner has rejected claim 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. In view of the amendments to claim 4, Applicant submits that the rejection of claim 22 is now moot.

II. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) in view of U.S. Publication No. 2003/0206316 to Anderson et al. ("Anderson")

The Examiner has rejected claims 4, 9 and 20-22 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Anderson.

A. Claim 4

Applicant submits that claim 4 is patentable over the cited reference. For example, claim 4 recites, "wherein the print control unit does not perform printing on the reproducing medium having a third size when the third size set by the operation unit exceeds a maximum size of the reproducing medium, which is defined by the restriction information."

In the claimed invention, the control unit does not perform printing on the reproducing medium having the third size even when the third size is set by the operation unit. In particular, printing is prohibited on the medium having a size larger than the maximum size defined by the restriction information, although the operation unit can set the size larger than this amount.

The Examiner maintains that the "Fit Within" tag of Anderson discloses the claimed restriction information. As set forth in paragraph [0060] of Anderson, a template is resized to fit

a print area for printing when the "Fit Within" tag is used. Thus, the "Fit Within" tag does not relate to the claimed restriction information. For example, as set forth above, claim 4 recites that printing is not performed when the reproducing medium has a size that exceeds a maximum size defined by the restriction information, even though the operation unit can set the exceeded size (i.e., the "third" size as recited in claim 4).

At least based on the foregoing, Applicant submits that claim 4 is patentable over the cited reference.

B. Claim 9

Since claim 9 contains features that are analogous to the features discussed above for claim 4, Applicant submits that claim 9 is patentable for at least analogous reasons as claim 4.

C. Claims 20-22

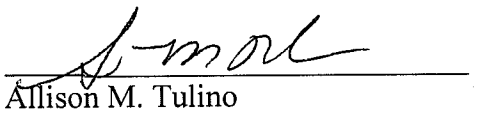
Applicant submits that claims 21 and 22 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency upon claim 4. Also, since claim 20 has been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer, Applicant submits that the rejection of such claim is now moot.

III. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



Allison M. Tulino
Registration No. 48,294

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON DC SUGHRUE/265550

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